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New short form enkephalinase polypeptide - for treatment of gastrointestinal or cardiovascular disorders and in diagnosis of

Patent Assignee: INSERM INST NAT SANTE & RECH MED (INRM) Inventor: GI; GIROS B; LLORENSCOR C; POLLARD H; SCHWARTZ J C

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Abstract (Basic): FR 2664287 A

Enzymatically active peptide (I) comprises the following sequence of 255 amino acids (AA) or a variant of this sequence with addn., deletion or substitution of one or more AA provided that the variant is a metallopeptidase having the same specificity as (I) are regards

Also new are (1) nucleic acids (II) encoding (I) or its variants; (2) recombinant vectors contg. (II); (3) host cells transformed with such vectors; (4) antibodies (Ab) directed against (I) but unable to recognise the enkephalinase (Ia) of EP-272928; (5) nucleotide probes which hybridise with (II) (or their complementary sequences) but not with the gene or mRNA for (Ia).

USE/ADVANTAGE - (I) is a shortened isoform of (Ia); it can hydrolyse Met5-enkephalin and model substrates and is inhibited by thiorphan. Inhibitors of (I) (e.g. Zn ion chelators) can be used to modify the activity of (I), e.g. for treatment of gastrointestinal and cardiovascular disorders. The nucleotide probes are useful (in hybridisation tests) (1) to diagnose disorders involving an abnormal, alternative splicing mechanism and (2) to identify tissue (e.g. from the intermediate lobe of the hypophysis) where (I) is expressed exclusively or predominantly, esp. to identify (I) inhibitors. Ab can be used to purify (I); as a diagnostic reagent and therapeutically.

Title Terms: NEW; SHORT; FORM; ENKEPHALINASE; POLYPEPTIDE; TREAT; GASTRO; CARDIOVASCULAR; DISORDER; DIAGNOSE; ENKEPHALINASE; MEDIATOR; DISORDER Derwent Class: B04; D16; R16

International Patent Class (Additional): A61K-037/64; C07K-013/00; C12N-009/64; C12N-015/57; C12Q-001/68; G01N-033/68

File Segment: CPI; EPI

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